

## Message Text

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54

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 AID-20 IO-15 EB-11 INR-10 PRS-01

OC-06 CCO-00 OPR-02 PM-07 /091 W

----- 093356

O P 281805Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

TO USCINCRD MACDILL AFB FLA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAKAR IMMEDIATE

USDAO DAKAR IMMEDIATE

INFO SECEEF WASHDC PRIORITY

SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7921

JCS WASHDC PRIORITY

CSAF WASHDC PRIORITY

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER PRIORITY

USCINCAFRED LANGLEY AFB VA PRIORITY

CINCUSAFE ALCC (EDARYN) RAMSTEIN AB GER PRIORITY

12 AF BERGSTROM AFB TX PRIORITY

834 AIR DIV LITTLE ROCK AFB AR PRIORITY

314 TAW LITTLE ROCK AFB AR PRIORITY

UNCLAS BAMAKO 3041

FROM: CDR JTF (AUTHENTIC ASSISTANCE) - HARP

E O 11652 N A

SUBJ: USG AIRLIFT IN MAURITANIA

A. AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT 884, 261645Z SEP 73 (NOTAL)

B. AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT 886, 261850Z SEP 73 (NOTAL)

C. CDR JTF BAMAKO 3012, 270930Z SEP 73

D. AMEMBASSY DAKAR 4325, 271155Z SEP 73 (NOTAL)

E. AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT 893, 271715Z SEP 73 (NOTAL)

1. REF A. SERIOUSLY QUESTION NOUAKCHOTT CAN PROVIDE LOGISTICAL  
BASE NEEDED FOR OPTIMUM USE OF AIRLIFT. PRINCIPAL DISADVANTAGES  
ARE PRIMITIVE SUPPORT FACILITIES IN CITY AND AIRPORT AND DIFFICULTY  
RECEIVING SPARE PARTS FOR C-130 MAINTENANCE. URGENT CONSIDERATION  
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STAGING AIRLIFT FROM DAKAR. DISADVANTAGES USING DAKAR ARE ROUGLY

15 PERCENT LONGER DISTANCES TO DELIVERY AIRFIELDS AND POSSIBLE DIFFICULTIES COORDINATING GRAIN MOVEMENT FROM DAKAR PORT TO AIRPORT. REF B. IF AIRLIFT STAGED FROM NOUAKCHOTT, EMBASSY WILL REQUIRE TRAINED COMMUNICATOR FOR PERIOD OF US AIRLIFT OPERATIONS. IF DOD COMMUNICATOR NOT FULLY CONVERSANT WITH EMBASSY LINE EQUIPMENT AND PROCEDURES, REQUESTED STATE TDY COMMUNICATOR. DOD SHOULD BE PREPARED TO PROVIDE INTERPRETERS FOR OPERATION SINCE GIRM HAS NO ENGLISH LANGUAGE SPEAKERS AVAILABLE. REF C. PROPOSED OPERATION PLAN STAGING FROM NOUAKCHOTT OR DAKAR. REF D. GRAIN AIRLIFT OPERATION FROM DAKAR TO MAURITANIA CAN NOT BE COMPARABLE TO SIMILAR RAF AIRLIFT TO MALI. MAURITANIA PROBLEMS ARE AS FOLLOWS: (A) NO DAKAR PORT FACILITIES RESERVED FOR GRAIN STOCK TO INCLUDE SUPERVISION AND CUSTOMS, (B) NO GRAIN TRANSFER CAPABILITY TO AIRPORT, (C) LACK BILATERAL AGREEMENT WITH SENEGAL, (D) LACK CONTRACT WITH FORWARDER FOR MAURITANIA GRAIN SHIPMENT, AND (E) LACK AGREEMENT WITH SENEGAL CONCERNING WAIVER LANDING FEES, JET FUEL TAX, ETC. REF E. NO POINT PURSUING IDEA LIFTING GRAIN FROM DAKAR BECAUSE OF PROBLEMS CITED IN

REF D.T THERE ARE TWO ALTERNATIVES TO CONSIDER: (A) BASE AIRCRAFT IN DAKAR LIFTING GRAIN FROM NOUAKCHOTT TO INTERIOR AND (B) BASE WHOLE OPERATION IN NOUAKCHOTT. ALTERNATIVE (A) SEEMS PREFERABLE TO AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT, BUT DEFER DOD JUDGEMENT. UNDER ALTERNATIVE (A) AIRCRAFT WOULD PICKUP CARGO NOUAKCHOTT EARLY MORNING, MAKE RUN TO KIFFA/23897, OFF-LOAD, RETURN NOUAKCHOTT FOR SECOND LOAD, SECOND RUN TO KIFFA/AIOUN, OFF-LOAD, AND DEPART DIRECT FOR DAKAR, RETURN, AND REPEATING OPERATION SUCCESSIVE DAYS. FUEL COULD BE PURCHASED DUTY-FREE NOUAKCHOTT.

2. IN VIEW OF ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES CONTAINED IN REFERENCED MSGS FOR CONDUCT OF AIRLIFT OPERATION IN MAURITANIA, REQUEST STRONG CONSIDERATION IN DECISION TO STAG AIRCRAFT FROM DAKAR VICE NOUAKCHOTT.

3. CONCUR WITH AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT ON ALTERNATIVE (A) IN REF D. NO REQUIREMENT FOR AF PERSONNEL TO BE BASED NOUAKCHOTT UNDER THIS ALTERNATIVE. FLIGHT CREWS AND CREW CHIEFS ABOARD ARRIVING AIRCRAFT CAN HANDLE ALL REQUIRED DUTIES FOR FLIGHT PREPARATION. JUST REQUIRE MAURITANIAN PERSONNEL AVAILABLE FOR REFUELING AND GRAIN LOADING WITH MANIFEST OF THE LOAD. IN OPERATING FROM DAKAR AND FLYING TWO GRAIN UNCLASSIFIED

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DELIVERIES PER DAY FROM NOUAKCHOTT, A FEW DAYS WILL RANGE BETWEEN 10-12 HOURS. IN PLANNING DAKAR AS BASE FOR AIRCRAFT AND PERSONNEL, DELETE FLIGHT NURSE FROM MANNING. PLAN TO USE AMERICAN DOCTOR IN DAKAR UNTIL OPERATION MOVE FROM MALI WHICH INCLUDES FLIGHT NURSE.

4. FOR AMEMBASSY DAKAR/USDAO DAKAR: IF DECISION FAVORS DAKAR, REQUEST FOLLOWING ASSISTANCE: (A) OBTAIN AIRPORT RAMP PARKING SPACE FOR ONE/TWO C-130 AIRCRAFT AND STORAGE SPACE FOR EQUIPMENT, (B)

OBTAIN RESERVATIONS AT REASONABLY PRICED HOTEL AND INFORMATION ON RESTAURANTS WITH CONSIDERATION ON EARLY HOUR OPERATIONS CLOSE TO AIRPORT. WILL ADVISE SOONEST ONCE NUMBER OF PERSONNEL DETERMINED. (C) USE OF COMMUNICATOR FOR LIMITED OPERATIONS/ MAINTENANCE MESSAGE TRAFFIC. (D) OBTAIN DATA TO ACQUIRE THREE MINIMUM AND FIVE MAXIMUM VEHICLES TO TRANSPORT AIRCREWS AND MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL FROM HOTEL TO AIRPORT AND BACK AND (E) OFFICE SPACE FOR MSN CDR, ADMIN SPE AND RADIO OPERATOR WITH EQUIPMENT.

5. REF USCINCRD 281430Z SEP 73. OPERATIONAL FEASIBILITY IN UTILIZING BAMAKO AS A BED-DOWN BASE FOR FOURTH C-130 TO BE DECIDED TO MAURITANIA IS UNDER REVIEW. CHARGE' KUNIHOLM WILL DISCUSS POSSIBILITY WITH MALI GOVT TOMORROW MORNING. WILL ADVISE SOONEST. ACKNOWLEDGED AUTHORIZATION TO CONDUCT SURVEY. KUNIHOLM

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